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Commission for Social Development
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Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly: review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups: World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons

Mexico: draft resolution

The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities

"*The Economic and Social Council*,

"*Reaffirming* the outcome of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their respective follow-up reviews, in particular as they pertain to the promotion of the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities on an equal and participatory basis,

"*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 56/168 of 19 December 2001, by which the Assembly established an Ad Hoc Committee to consider proposals for a comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, based on the holistic approach in the work done in the fields of social development, human rights and non-discrimination,

"*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 57/229 of 18 December 2002, by which the Assembly took note with appreciation of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on its first session and reaffirmed the need to promote and protect the equal and effective enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by persons with disabilities, aware of the contribution that a

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convention could make in that regard and thus convinced of the need to continue to consider proposals,

"*Recalling* Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/7 of 24 July 2002 on a comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities,

"*Underlining* the important contribution of the Commission for Social Development and the Commission on Human Rights to the elaboration of a comprehensive and integral international convention to protect and promote the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities,

"*Stressing* the primary responsibility of Governments in the promotion and protection of all human rights of persons with disabilities,

"*Welcoming* the work of national, regional and international meetings of Governments, experts, and non-governmental organizations that contribute to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, including the regional initiatives taken in Africa, America, Asia and Europe prior to the second session of the Ad Hoc Committee,

"*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General[1] on the fourth quinquennial review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[2]

"*Deeply concerned* about the disadvantaged and vulnerable situation faced by the six hundred million persons with disabilities in all parts of the world,

"1. *Welcomes* the contributions of the Special Rapporteur on Disability to the process of elaboration of the international convention, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue to make contributions to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, particularly on ways to achieve a comprehensive instrument addressing all human rights of persons with disabilities;

"2. *Also welcomes* the contributions of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the process of elaboration of the international convention, and encourages it to continue to make contributions to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee;

"3. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to continue to contribute to the process of elaboration of the international convention by, inter alia, providing its views regarding social development of persons with disabilities and proposals for a convention, bearing in mind the experience in the implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities[3] and the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;[2]

"4. *Invites* relevant bodies and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, in particular the International Labour Organization, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to continue to contribute to the process of elaboration of

[1] A/58/61-E/2003/5.

[2] See General Assembly resolution 37/52.

[3] General Assembly resolution 48/96, annex.

the convention and to make available to the Ad Hoc Committee suggestions and possible elements to be considered as proposals for the convention;

"5. *Encourages* the relevant bodies of the United Nations to continue to promote and support the active participation of civil society, including interested non-governmental organizations, in the process of elaboration of the international convention, and requests the Secretary-General to disseminate widely to the community of non-governmental organizations all available information on accreditation procedures, as well as information on supportive measures for the participation in the Ad Hoc Committee in accordance with General Assembly resolution 57/229 and Assembly decision 56/510 of 23 July 2002;

"6. *Also encourages* member and observer States to ensure the necessary expertise and the participation of international disability organizations in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee by, inter alia, providing adequate financial resources, in accordance with the standard practice of the General Assembly, and by including persons with disabilities in their delegations to the Ad Hoc Committee;

"7. *Invites* Governments, civil society and the private sector to contribute to the voluntary fund established to support the participation of non-governmental organizations and experts from developing countries, in particular from least developed countries;

"8. *Urges* that efforts be made to ensure that accessibility with reasonable accommodation insofar as facilities and documentation is improved for all persons with disabilities, in accordance with General Assembly decision 56/473 of 23 July 2002;

"9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the facilities necessary for the performance of its work, and in that context invites the Secretary-General to reallocate resources to allow the United Nations Programme on Disability to provide support to the Ad Hoc Committee, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 57/229."